

np NEW PRAIRIE UNITED SCHOOL CORPORATION

a culture of excellence

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We are looking forward to ending this school year strong and starting the 2017-18 school year even stronger at New Prairie United School Corporation. Big things are happening for our school district and our students. Find out in this issue all about it!

Superintendent's Message

As we wrap up ISTEP+ testing across our district and finish up a successful 2016-17 school year, I realize many students and families have sights set on summer. Summer break is an exciting time for students. I encourage our

families to take time in the coming months to travel together, play outside and simply enjoy each other's company.



Students should stay active this summer break, but they should also keep their minds active. It is important for students to stay engaged in learning so they do not fall behind when school resumes in the Fall, but it is also important for them to have fun while doing so. We are lucky to have so many fun family resources

in the area, ranging from The History Museum's Kidsfirst Children's Museum and the HealthWorks! Kids' Museum to the Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center. We also have two fantastic public libraries in our community with lots of fun summer programs on the calendar.

As you'll learn in this edition of New Prairie's newsletter, big things are happening for our school district and our students — even during the upcoming days of summer. Construction crews will be busy renovating our elementary schools, and more than 20 New Prairie High School students will be representing our district at a national leadership conference for future health care professionals.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement as we work together to prepare our community's youth for bright futures.

Warm regards,
Dr. Paul White



We continue to set high expectations for learning and create opportunities for all students to succeed.

Construction Corner

As with any major and complex construction project, some adjustments to the timeline for the addition and renovations at New Prairie High School have been necessary. Although work on the additions and new construction at the high school — including a new main entry, a "Hall of Excellence" corridor connecting the east and west wings and a new auditorium — was slated to begin this May, the project has been delayed until May 2018. Some renovations inside of the high school will still be completed over the next year.

NPUSC will be sending out a new, detailed timeline explaining why the construction schedule was adjusted and the new dates for various projects. Please keep an eye out for that communication.

All elementary school projects are still on schedule to begin in May 2017 and be completed by August 2017, just in time for the new school year. You'll likely see construction crews outside of your neighborhood school this summer. Here is what they are working on:

Rolling Prairie Elementary

- Cafeteria addition
- Restroom expansion/remodeling
- Main office, student health clinic and classroom renovations (casework/carpeting)
- Improvement of secure main entry, to be connected to main office
- Relocation of teacher work room, after-school programming space addition
- Boiler and chiller replacement
- Energy savings management system HVAC and lighting

Olive Township Elementary

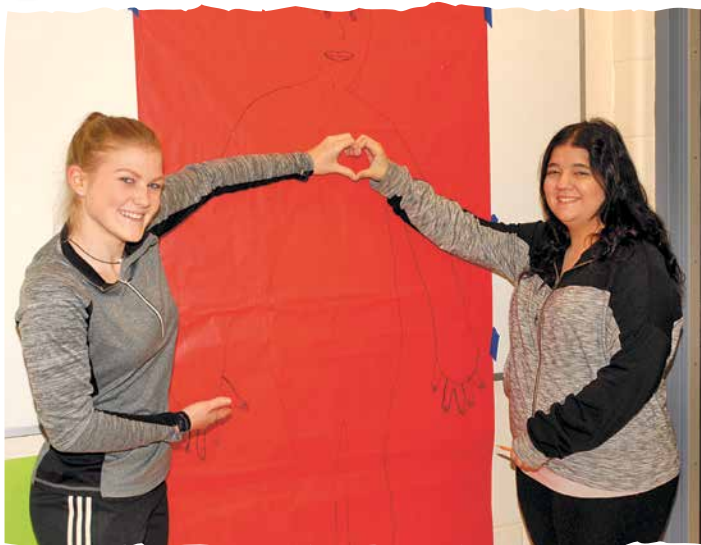
- Secure main entry addition
- Roof replacement
- Boiler and chiller replacement
- Restroom remodeling
- Classroom renovations (casework/carpeting)
- Energy savings management system HVAC and lighting

Prairie View Elementary

- Secure main entry addition
- Roof replacement
- Boiler replacement
- Restroom remodeling
- Classroom renovations (casework/carpeting)
- Energy savings management system HVAC and lighting

Thank you in advance for your patience and flexibility. As always, please reach out to the us at our central office if you have any concerns or questions about the work.

We want to keep you up-to-date on any changes or delays to the construction schedule, and we also want to show you how your hard-earned tax dollars are helping us create better learning environments for many future generations of New Prairie students. "Construction Corner" will be a regular feature in this newsletter, so check back in future editions to follow the projects. We will include pictures of the progress at our elementary schools in the next edition to give our families a sneak peak before the school year begins.



At New Prairie, students receive a well-rounded education, make great friends and have fun, too!

Over 20 NPHS students Advance to HOSA Nationals in Orlando this June

A group of New Prairie High School students have qualified to attend a national leadership conference that aims to develop compassionate, quality healthcare professionals. In late June, 21 students will travel to HOSA's 40th Annual International Leadership Conference in Orlando. At the conference, students will compete in events focused on leadership, professional and technical skills while also networking with people from across the globe with similar career goals. HOSA is an international student organization that promotes career opportunities in the healthcare industry while also improving the delivery of quality healthcare to all people.

To earn a spot at conference, New Prairie students first had to compete against 1,300 other Indiana students at the 2017 Indiana State Leadership Conference. More than 50 students competed at the state level, and half of them finished in the top three of their respective events, qualifying them for the national conference. Each of the students pick one or more categories to compete in, with categories including medical terminology, medical law and ethics, clinical nursing, physical therapy or medical assisting.

Teacher and advisor Tonya Aerts said HOSA helps students develop a strong work ethic and allows students to take ownership of their own learning.

"I try to direct them, but they're completely responsible for preparing for their events on their own," she said. "I set up guidelines to help them stay focused, but the preparation is all on them. It helps them develop their own study skills, public speaking skills, presentation skills and — depending on the category or event — it might even help them learn some hands-on skills."

She said that while other schools in the state and throughout the country have HOSA classes, it is an extracurricular activity at New Prairie. That means that while students from other teams have time during the school day to practice for HOSA, New Prairie students must dedicate their own time to practice.

"No one is forcing them to mentally or physically invest in this. They choose that for themselves," Aerts said. "It catapults them into another level of thinking and prepares them for what's potentially ahead of them."

HOSA is a quickly growing club at New Prairie. When the team first formed at the school about five years ago, only 10 students participated. This year, more than 90 students took part in HOSA at some level. Part of the interest is because students believe they can find great careers in the health care industry. Employment of health care occupations is projected to grow 19 percent through 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. More than 2 million new jobs are expected to be added in that time, more than any other group of occupations.

Aerts said the members' passion is also driving more students to join HOSA. She also thanked New Prairie United School Corporation administration and the Northwest Indiana Area Health Education Center for the continued support. When Aerts thinks of how hard the New Prairie students have worked to earn a place in Orlando, it brings tears to her eyes.

"They have grown so much through the whole process," she said. "It gives me chills, every time I see a kid's name get called. It brings tears to my eyes. I love to see them take ownership of something. They get to reap all the benefits, but if there's failure along the way, they can learn from that, too."

New Prairie United School Corporation would like to congratulate the following Team HOSA members who placed in the Top 3 of their competitive event and have earned a spot at the national leadership conference in Orlando in June:

- Shea Jamieson, Medical Spelling, 3rd
- Abigail Doorn, Medical Reading, 2nd
- Makenna Rosplock, Medical Reading, 3rd
- Jen Ritchie, Behavioral Health, 2nd
- Grant Johnson, Nutrition, 2nd
- Chloe Stantz, Physical Therapy, 3rd
- Allison Hein, Medical Photography, 2nd
- Petra Hemphill, Researched Persuasive Speaking, 3rd

- Lexi Nowicki, Forensic Medicine, 3rd
- Jen Ritchie, Forensic Medicine, 3rd
- Riley Bronner, Medical Innovation- Advancement, 2nd
- Chiana Nichols, Medical Innovation- Advancement, 2nd
- Alissa Raby, Medical Innovation- Advancement, 2nd
- Sydney Roempagel, Medical Innovation- Advancement, 2nd
- Shea Jamieson, Medical Innovation- Advancement, 3rd
- Riley Moody, Medical Innovation- Advancement, 3rd
- Emma Klute, Medical Innovation- Advancement, 3rd
- Katie Klemczak, Medical Innovation- Advancement, 3rd
- Megan Boyd, Public Service Announcement, 2nd
- Sydney Moody, Public Service Announcement, 2nd
- Allie Palmer, Public Service Announcement, 2nd
- Callie Metzger, Public Service Announcement, 2nd
- Addie Woodham, Public Service Announcement, 2nd

New Prairie High School Hires New Girls' Basketball Coach

One of the most successful high school basketball coaches in northern Indiana is coming to New Prairie. Eric Mauch, known as "Coach Ric," has been appointed as the New Prairie High School girls' varsity basketball coach and is looking forward



to returning to a career as a basketball coach.

"Leading the girls basketball program at NPHS is the perfect situation: a community that cares about the future of their students, values high academic success, is dedicated to improving facilities, has an overall passion for excellence and is guided by a district office and athletic department that truly care for their ultimate customer -- the New Prairie student," Mauch said. "My family and I are thrilled to be become a part of this community."

Mauch was the head girls' basketball coach at South Bend St. Joseph High School from 2010-16. During that time, his teams posted an impressive win-loss record (97-42) and earned three sectional, one regional and two Northern Indiana Conference (NIC) championships. Coach Ric was voted NIC Coach of the Year three times by his peers. Mauch graduated from Lake Central High School, where he was a three-sport athlete and a member of the Lake Central 1984 IHSAA Final Four basketball team. He is a graduate of Marquette University, where he played college football and baseball.

Mauch is the Manager of Network Services at the University of Notre Dame for the Office of Information Technology. His wife, Kim, is the Director of Marketing and Communications for Saint Pius X Catholic Church/School in Granger. They have a son, Jake, a student at Notre Dame, and a daughter, Hannah, a student at Marquette University in Milwaukee.

"We have hired an outstanding basketball coach," said Brian Williamson, New Prairie's Director of Athletics. "His knowledge of the game and coaching abilities are second to none. Coach Ric is a person of strong character and will bring many life lessons to our athletes."

Mauch's appointment was unanimously approved by the NPUSC Board of Trustees in April and he began his duties at New Prairie immediately.

"We are excited and honored that Coach Ric is bringing his talents to New Prairie," Superintendent Paul White said. "He brings instant credibility to our program, and his energy and passion for the game is unmatched. We look forward to supporting Coach Ric and our female athletes to take our program to new heights."

